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856-B-5

PrEx 7.10:FBIS-LAT-78-143

FBIS-LAT-78-143
Tuesday
25 July 1978
Vol VI No 143

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED

ORIGINAL

LATIN AMERICA

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

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PEREZ, TURBAY AYALA ISSUE JOINT DECLARATION

PA2407232Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Joint declaration signed and released by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and Colombian President-elect Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala at the end of their meeting held in Maracaibo, Venezuela on 24 July 1978]

[Excerpts] The two presidents are pleased to announce to their respective countries that during their cordial talks they examined problems of common interest, such as those concerned with the subregional Andean pact, integration of the border region, labor migrations and delimitation of marine and underwater areas.

The advantage of giving new impetus to projects, such as the Zulia-Orena agro-industrial project, was discussed. This project is aimed at increasing agricultural production in both countries, its transformation into sugar and the best industrial benefit of its various other products and derivatives. [sentence as heard]

The two rulers also decided to endorse the creation of a binational commercialization enterprise which would be in charge of the transportation, shipment and international marketing of coal from the area north of the Santander Basin and would conduct the necessary studies for the construction of a port south of Lake Maracaibo.

President Carlos Andres Perez reiterated his, by now, familiar stand of supporting the credit request presented by Colombia to the Inter-American Development Bank. The credit is to be drawn from Venezuela's special fund. This procedure, he noted, could also be resorted to in order to finance the coal marketing enterprise.

The two leaders believe that it is essential to use the broad possibilities of economic complementation made possible by the development of the border region and therefore commit themselves to encouraging the study of joint plans which will contribute to making the vast Colombian-Venezuelan border area a development area capable of creating many job opportunities and of improving the living conditions of the area's residents.

In general, and without detriment to the continuation of a study on the subject and the release of a new declaration on the subject with other rulers in the Andean subregion, they feel that it is essential to resolutely support the Cartagena agreement so that the area's integration process will be neither stopped nor allowed to deteriorate but, on the contrary, will receive new stimulus that will accelerate its rhythm of development.

The old problem of the undocumented citizens, which the two countries' authorities have so often studied and which has been the object of multiple and so far ineffective agreements, should, in the opinion of both presidents Turbay Ayala and Perez, who signed this declaration, be the subject of a new approach aimed at preventing the exploitation of the workers who have entered Venezuela without meeting the necessary legal requirements and at promptly providing them with their documents through the active cooperation of the authorities of both countries.

Within this framework and aside from the administrative measures, pertinent initiatives will be proposed to the Congress of each country because both rulers regard as inconvenient the illegal entrance of citizens from one country to another.

Regarding the delimitation of marine and submarine areas, the two rulers feel that it is necessary to insist on the system of direct talks between their two governments, just as such talks fraternally took place under the administrations of Venezuelan Presidents Raul Leoni, Rafael Caldera and Carlos Andres Perez and Colombian Presidents Carlos Lleras Restrepo, Misael Pastrana Borrero and Alfonso Lopez Michelsen. This attitude must be maintained and greatly activated in order to obtain satisfactory results for both parties.

The two presidents feel that peaceful means are the only ones advisable to overcome the existing problems between these sister countries as soon as possible. These problems cannot be neglected because any delay in looking into them might aggravate them and make their solution less easy afterward.

Obviously, an issue of singular importance, such as that of the delimitation of the marine and underwater areas, should have the greatest possible public support in both countries. To that end, the signatories of this declaration commit themselves to keeping their respective countries broadly informed.

Taking into account the responsibility that corresponds to both Colombia and Venezuela since the two countries have democratic and representative systems, they find it advisable to continue the system of consultations practiced by the administrations of Presidents Alfonso Lopez Michelsen and Carlos Andres Perez to look into the solution of problems of marked hemispheric interest.

Finally, President Carlos Andres Perez expressed his satisfaction on accepting the invitation extended to him by President Turbay Ayala for his attendance at Turbay Ayala's inaugural ceremony on 7 August.

The present declaration was signed in Maracaibo, today, 24 July 1978.

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT LEAVES ON 3-DAY TOUR OF SURINAM

PA241828Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1745 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpt] Maracaibo, Venezuela, 24 Jul (AFP)--Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez left today at noon for Surinam on an official 3-day visit. Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi, the presidents of several government agencies, congressmen, businessmen, labor leaders and mass media executives are accompanying the chief of state.

HERALD SAYS CARTER'S LOAN VETO MAY BACKFIRE

PY211808Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 21 Jul 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "The Big Stick"]

[Text] The U.S. State Department veto of a $270-million Eximbank credit requested by a corporation involved in building the Yacyreta hydroelectric complex may win the Carter administration some applause from the left. It may even make sense in the U.S. domestic context, where groups of lobbyists must be appeased from time to time and rival bands of policy-makers placated. But it will not do the cause of human rights in Argentina any good at all. U.S. pressure could inspire a powerful backlash and could poison the political atmosphere here, encouraging not just nationalism but outright xenophobia as well and could lead to a reversal in the loosening-up process that is taking place. It is also providing the many enemies of democracy in the country with useful ammunition. Whenever anyone in the government seeks to speed up the pace of normalization he is being restrained by the knowledge that this will be interpreted by backward-looking forces as capitulation to a foreign demand. In the eyes of some the rapid restoration of law and order and court-controlled justice after the vicious terrorist onslaught would be a token of weakness from the government, not of strength. This feeling, which is widely held, is a major barrier to greater liberalization, and it is being reinforced by U.S. behaviour.

If the U.S. administration really does want to use its immense power to positive affect in Argentina it will have to use it with intelligence, tact, and respect for the dignity of a sovereign nation. It will, moreover, have to abandon the grotesque oversimplifications that have determined the ever-changing U.S. approach to Argentina over recent decades. It cannot simply decide that the military government is bad and most of its opponents are good, and assume that the way to help the Argentine people is to punish its government. Surely by now the people running U.S. policy are aware that even Argentines who detest their government will rally to its support when it is attacked from outside, especially by a superpower not especially famous for its respect for legitimate Latin American interests.

No doubt many U.S. politicians and officials are using Argentina as a stepping stone in their careers or a counter in some Washington power game. They are concerned mainly to be seen crusading for "human rights," not with the actual effects of what they do. They could not care less if Argentines suffer as a consequence of their actions or if the chances of the men around President Videla steering a damaged society towards pluralistic democracy suffer. Those U.S. officials and others who do care, however, should take a serious look at the policies their government is pursuing. Unless they do so the anti-democratic reaction now building up, thanks to Washington's bullying, will not just sweep Argentina into the camp of the enemies of the democratic West, but will ensure that human rights will be abused even more fiercely in future than in the past.

BRIEFS

ADDITIONAL TELEX SERVICES--Buenos Aires, 17 Jul--The National Telecommunications Company has announced that 45 telex stations will be completed this year to cover the great demand for service. By the end of the 2-year period ending in 1979, all 6,446 lines of the new system will be operating. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0330 GMT 18 Jul 78 PY]

LIST SHOWS MOST CABINET MEMBERS AS CIVILIAN

PY241940Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1630 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 24 Jul--Bolivian President Gen Juan Pereda today appointed his first government cabinet. The majority of the members are civilian, but within a civilian-military framework.

The names of the new ministers are as follows:

Foreign relations and worship:	Ricardo Anaya
Interior, immigration and justice:	Faustino Rico Toro
National defense:	Gen Angel Salmon
Finance:	Jorge Tamayo
Transportation and communications:	Alfredo Franco Guachalla
Industry and commerce:	Edwin Tapia Fontanilla
Agriculture:	Col Guillermo Escobar
Labor:	Jorge Burgoa
Energy and hydrocarbons:	Roberto Capriles [s received]
Mining and metallurgy:	Isaac Castro
Planning:	Raul Lema Patino
Education and culture:	Hernando Garcia Vespa
Public health:	Oscar Roman Vaca

The armed forces and two established political parties, the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR) and the Bolivian Socialist Falange (FSB), are members of the first government of Gen Juan Pereda Asbun, it was reported.

PEREDA SPEAKS AT SWEARING-IN OF CABINET

PY242205Y La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 1658 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Speech by President Gen Juan Pereda Asbun after swearing in his cabinet at government house on 24 July in La Paz--live]

[Text] People of Bolivia, the activities of expectation and waiting conclude with this ceremony. The cabinet which has been sworn in today completes the organization of the government which emerged on 9 July through the (?undeniable) will of the people.

Despite all information to the contrary, no one can deny that the candidacy of the People's Nationalist Union obtained a majority of votes in the elections. The National Electoral Court declared this to be so. Thus [words indistinct] this is summed up in the conscience of the national community which means that the people are the source and basis of my government.

The armed forces of the nation, as a substantial part of national political reality, supported the civilian uprising and exercised the mandate of popular will.

(?Achieving) concrete objectives, in order to fall within the framework of the democratic formulas established by the old world demands actions which, while not precisely orthodox, do demonstrate the authentic nature of our people.

In no way can democracy be reduced to the ideas and experience of industrialized countries. Asia, Africa, and Latin America are now more than ever (?adopting) universal culture and creations of their own personalities.

It is not a question of someone establishing a determined guideline for political conduct and everyone then being obliged to uniformly adopt it.

On the long path to freedom it is more important to accommodate both material and personal circumstances to each person or each society [words indistinct] that everyone else act in accordance with the values and norms of a certain group or country is not precisely democratic behavior.

What has happened here in Bolivia is not the exclusive result of the will or interests of those who appear up front. It is the fruit of the intense nature within which the national structures work.

This (?incident) will serve to make us pay more attention in the future to the substantial aspects of political phenomena rather than the secondary aspects which are visible.

During the recent elections, despite the shortcomings, substantial aspects of (?democracy) were achieved. Regretfully there is a (?certain type) who is not or cannot be sincerely interested in contributing to the country's development and who did not pay any attention to the efforts being carried out by Bolivians but rather continued in the errors and incidents which are unavoidable among us Bolivians.

Our government is the result of a Bolivian reality and its line of conduct is marked in the history, culture and personality of the legitimate aspirations of we who belong, in exclusive terms, to this marvelous and admirable nation.

During the electoral campaign I submitted a government program to the country. This program will be implemented with a continuous harmonization of the purposes and needs which we will seek from the various sectors and regions of our country.

On this occasion I wish to refer to four fundamental concepts. With an eye toward these concepts, we must adopt a clear position in order to present the model of our government to national and international public opinion.

In the first place, this is a democratic government of national unity which intends to mobilize the nation around concrete objectives which must be achieved in the short term. It is true that it does not yet have the participation of every sector and tendency which belongs to the large framework of revolutionary nationalism. But it is no less evident that it is a very good basis for generating unity.

Repeating concepts which I announced in a speech I gave during the electoral campaign, I believe that both democratic evolution and economic development undeniably require a joint effort with collective participation.

[Words indistinct] human, only that of an institution, or political party [words indistinct] of a national character nearly always carries the risk that both democratization and development become unilateral in the sense that they are implemented only from the viewpoint of those who implement them.

The essential basis for economic, political, cultural and social development must at least be defined with guidelines of a national character, with supraindividual or party ideas which will compromise their defense and perfection.

In this time of large economic and social spheres, isolated, sectarian or exclusive solutions are not satisfactory answers when looked at from the viewpoint of the common good or collective happiness.

We must unite around Bolivia. We must unite through dialog. My government has made very sincere effort toward this and will continue to do so, including any necessary sacrifices. [applause]

In the second place I must submit to the country in the shortest possible time a plan of reforms in order to achieve popular participation. Our goal is for the miners, for example, to participate in the reorganization of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia and that the peasants participate in the management of the new structures which will be created for fully implementing agrarian reform. [applause] Summing up, this second concept consists of our making permanent efforts so that the nation's majority will participate in both the decisions and debate of all the tasks to be carried out in the country. [applause]

In the third place, I declare, with the clarity which the case requires, that we will continue with the democratization plan which was begun by the government of the armed forces. [applause] We ourselves will add the measures and efforts which are necessary so that democracy will not become the mechanical expansion of the application of brute mechanics, but rather a permanent process which is in line with the needs of the country and the people themselves. This process will prosper through the achievement of successive goals in reasonably established periods of time, in such a way that they become solid, enduring and reliable structures. [applause]

The first instructions I mean to give my ministers will be regarding the drafting of this plan which will then be submitted to the country. [applause]

(?To create) an effective process of democratization, legal and institutional reforms are required which are only feasible if there is the necessary time for their preparation. Otherwise, we run the risk of repeating the same scene which will surely be quickly questioned by those who lose, thus returning to the vicious cycle of accused and accusers. They ask for stability and homogeneous social integration. In the end they know. regarding human rights, that we have comprehensive ideas. Man has the right to work, education, housing, health, stability and political activities. Along with this comprehensive concept we believe that the rights of the individual are intimately linked with the rights of the nation, with the rights of the community. Therefore, development of the national perspective causes us to propose that the overall development which will give us freedom should hold first place.

During these times in which internal actions have international effects we are decided, in view of our convictions [passage indistinct] elemental rights whether through appropriate action or through criminal and cruel actions [words indistinct] based on political positions which cause tears, blood and harm to countries. [applause]

Our Christian belief and our democratic bent demand this from us. This will also be our attitude at the international level, in agreement with the spirit which inspires the national government, in frank opposition to violence.

In the Latin American sphere we are convinced that integration will constitute a favorable point, not only in the framework of economic exchange but to reach a firm unity and a new collective responsibility [words indistinct], thus contributing to the cause of peace.

According to our traditions and the Bolivian spirit of respect and solidarity toward all friendly countries, we are determined to fulfill our international commitments and assume the responsibilities which may arise, in order to assure active and fulfilling peace at all levels.

Our participation toward this goal will be dependent upon the action of the Latin American countries, inasmuch as they are able to carry out unified action. Our aims in this regard are oriented toward firmly contributing to this end.

Gentlemen: Your aid summarizes a deep understanding of our reality, which demands from us a civic and honest behavior, in order to meet the hopes of the people who are putting the faith of their future in your hands. That is all.

ELECTORAL COURT REFUSES TO REVALIDATE PEREDA

PY250127Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The National Electoral Court has turned down a request to annul its decision to cancel the elections of 9 July. The court took only a few hours to answer a request submitted by (Jose Humberto Fernandez) [not further identified], who was apparently seeking to provide Pereda's government with legal status. The brief ruling of the Electoral Court, signed by Julio Mantilla, states: The National Electoral Court resolves--in accordance with Article 6 of Resolution 72/78 issued on 9 July, which terminated its functions--that there are no grounds for taking into consideration the abovementioned request and therefore the court's decision remains unchanged.

OPPOSITION REFUSES TO PARTICIPATE IN PEREDA CABINET

PY241737Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1724 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 24 Jul--The main opposition political leaders stated to the press today, from their semi-clandestine position, that they will not accept any type of participation or cooperation with the new government headed by Gen Juan Pereda. News media have concluded from the statements made by opponents that they were unanimous in their rejecting cooperation with the new government.

COMIBOL CHIEF RESIGNS TO GIVE PEREDA FREE REIN

PY250207Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Col Enrique Vargas, general manager of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL], has submitted his resignation from that post, thus placing the post he had been holding since 10 January in the hands of the newly constituted government. In his letter to President Juan Pereda Asbun, Vargas indicated that he acknowledges the right of the new president to choose his new team. Col Enrique Vargas had been manager of COMIBOL for the past 7 months.

KEY GENERAL RESIGNS; REASON STILL UNCLEAR

PY250049Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Maj Gen Victor Gonzales Fuentes, chief of staff of the joint armed forces command, has asked the president of the nation to be relieved from his post.

General Gonzales Fuentes held a meeting with former Bolivian Navy Commander Rear Adm Gutemberg Barroso Hurtado, to whom he explained the program of ceremonies for the swearing in of the armed forces command.

Upon being questioned by journalists, Gonzales Fuentes said, "I have asked the captain general of the armed forces to relieve me of my duties as chief of staff of the joint armed forces command."

When Radio Panamericana asked him whether the armed forces support Gen Juan Pereda, now president of the nation, Gonzales Fuentes answered: "No comment. You will get an idea of the situation at the swearing-in ceremony tomorrow."

HUMAN RIGHTS ASSEMBLY CHARGES POLITICAL ARRESTS

PY250222Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The Bolivian Permanent Assembly for Human Rights has reported that approximately 70 persons were arrested in Oruro for political reasons since the military uprising which resulted in an abrupt change of government. This organization also reported that the headquarters of the assembly in this city was raided by civilian supporters of the new regime. The Human Rights Assembly also reported that arrests had taken place in several parts of the country and that a list of persons arrested by state security organizations will be released very soon.

MINEWORKERS RESTIVE OVER WAGE REQUESTS, ARRESTS

PY250259Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The nation's mineworkers are eager to know the results of the deliberations on the proposed wage and salary increases which were presented some days ago to the appropriate authorities. This report was provided to Panamericana by Secretary General of the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia [FSTMB] Victor Lopez Arias, who spoke about the nation's present political situation.

[Begin Lopez recording] I believe that, in principle, we workers are defenders of the nation's Constitution, democratic rights and union freedom. We are aware that it is our duty to defend them. [end recording] Lopez indicated that the nation's mineworkers are anxious to know about the increase in wages and salaries for that labor sector. [Begin Lopez recording] The workers I have met with during the past week have shown some impatience to know these results. We understand that the federation last week received a notice that a concrete answer with respect to this would be given within 14 days. We have the duty of continuing with our efforts. This is an issue which greatly affects the workers because of the situation they have been enduring. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the FSTMB and the Bolivian Labor Central issued a joint communique which denounces arrests and other irregularities within the new political situation in the country. The communique first states that more than 40 citizens have been arrested in Tarija, 50 in Oruro, and 35 in Cochabamba. Miss (Enil Escobar), a member of Bolivian Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, was arrested in (Huyani). Among these 125 persons who have been arrested there are many labor leaders, such as (Armando Morales) and (Daniel Ordonez) of San Jose.

The communique was signed by Juan Lechin Oquendo, Victor Lopez, (Simon Reyes) and Oscar Salas, leaders of the FSTMB.

ARENA SEEKS TO EXTEND SEA LIMITS TO 1,000 MILES

PY241258Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2346 GMT 23 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 23 Jul--It was reported here today that a deputy of the official party, the National Renewal Alliance [ARENA], will submit to Congress in August a bill aimed at establishing an 800-mile security zone adjacent to the Brazilian 200-mile territorial sea.

Deputy Faria Lima, ARENA deputy for Sao Paulo, author of the bill, said that all activities affecting national security or damaging ecological equilibrium and natural resources in this 800-mile zone adjacent to the 200-mile Brazilian territorial sea will be prohibited.

The bill states that the Brazilian Government will enforce sovereignty over the air space and the marine resources within the 1,000-mile zone adjacent to the coast but that the free movement of foreign ships and airplanes would be allowed.

Brazil extended its territorial limits to 200 miles in March 1970 and in March 1971 issued a law regulating the different activities in this zone.

MINISTER AZEREDO MAKES PROGRESS ON URENCO DEAL

PY250138Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Jul 78 p 6 PY

[Excerpt] Yesterday Minister Azeredo da Silveira took the first step aimed at implementing the enriched uranium supply agreement signed between URENCO and Brazil, within the terms established in January this year. In this connection he held private meetings at Itamaraty with UK Ambassador Normal Statham and FRG Ambassador Jean Kinast [as published].

This information was released by Itamaraty spokesman Luis Felipe Lampreia. He indicated that Brazil had agreed with the safeguards demanded by the Netherlands last year. Later on the Netherlands Parliament demanded additional safeguards with which Brazil did not concur because it believed that the contract signed in January already provided for the broad safeguards required by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Minister Silveira, who will receive the Netherlands Ambassador, Gerhard Wolter Bentinck, on Monday, is taking the first steps to implement the supply of enriched uranium from URENCO for the Angra I and II nuclear plants. The supply could be implemented through a direct Brazil-URENCO agreement, or a trilateral agreement which would include the IAEA.

The fact is that nothing concrete will be decided prior to the negotiations between the United States and the EEC on this subject. The new U.S. law on exports of nuclear equipment and material has brought in a series of new requirements which give rise to the need of renegotiating the enriched uranium supply accords with certain EEC countries and the supply of uranium ore to be enriched by URENCO which is a Netherlands, British and West German Consortium.

BRIEFS

1977 FOREIGN DEBT--Rio de Janeiro, 18 Jul--According to data released by the Central Bank here today, Brazil's foreign debt amounted to $32,037,000,000 on 31 December 1977. Approximately 60 percent of this is government-backed and the rest loans obtained by private enterprises without government backing. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0024 GMT 19 Jul 78 PY]

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS SURROUND LEIGH'S OUSTER

Communique Issued

PY241553Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria in Spanish 1515 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Communique released by Chilean military junta in Santiago on 24 July]

[Text] Today the honorable members of the military junta, headed by His Excellency the president of the republic, and composed of the commander of the navy, Adm Jose Toribio Merino Castro, and the carabineros general director, Gen Cesar Mendoza Duran, unanimously agreed, in view of the power entrusted to them by Law No [number indistinct] of 1974, to declare that Gen Gustavo Leigh Guzman, as of today, 24 July 1978, will no longer continue to be commander of the air force and member of the honorable military junta because he has repeatedly violated the principles and postulates which inspired the movement of 11 September 1973.

It also unanimously agreed to name Gen Fernando Matthei as commander of the air force and member of the honorable military junta. He will immediately assume his new duties.

General Matthei will be sworn in at 1200 today as member of the honorable military junta.

This decision does not in any way affect the Chilean Air Force [words indistinct] armed forces and police are patriotically continuing in the historic task of reconstructing the country.

Pinochet Discusses Leigh's Dismissal

PY241954Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1640 GMT 24 Jul 78 PY

[Speech delivered by President Augusto Pinochet during swearing-in ceremony of Gen Fernando Matthei as air force commander and member of the military junta, from Government House--live]

[Text] President of the Supreme Court, minister and secretaries of state, countrymen: No one can forget the situation which prevailed in the country before 11 September 1973, when the armed forces and the police forces put an end to a situation of chaos, hate, destruction and the complete lack of security for any person or family, a situation created by Marxism in Chile. We should also recall that this action was taken due to the many years of division among the parties, of never-ending confrontations resulting from the personal ambitions of those seeking power for the benefit of their own groups, putting Chilean problems aside and creating a chaotic situation.

The armed forces and the police forces, in response to a call from the nation, which watched helplessly as the country's basic insitutions were being destroyed, rescued Chile from the Soviet imperialism which wanted to take over our territory in order to use it as one more instrument for imposing tyranny on the world.

Chile recovered its independence and sovereignty as well as the security of the country. The military government has offered Chile a new institutionality which will guarantee freedom and basic rights to every Chilean in an environment of peace and tranquillity.

This government has fulfilled its commitments and we can now feel proud of a moral and material recovery which seemed impossible to achieve before.

The economic reactivation aimed at social development is an undeniable fact which has now been recognized even by the harshest critic, in view of the noticeable improvements in all secotrs of national life. It is true that we still have a lot to accomplish. But since this government is in permanent contact with all sectors of the Chilean people all over the nation, it understands that a great deal still remains to be done in this effort for progress which the nation is tirelessly carrying out with full hope for a better future. The entire country is working and progressing in order to maintain order and trust. It is necessary to have an unyielding faith in the ideals which represent [passage indistinct] of 11 September, to serve the country above any interest, without personalism, without individual interests, without divisions [words indistinct] of Chileans which only seek the good of Chile.

The country knows very well that each principle [words indistinct] of the members of the junta. The country also knows that I have talked to the people with complete frankness, even in times of ordeal. Therefore, I have to tell the Chilean people, in the name of the honorable military junta over which I preside, that Gen Gustavo Leigh has long been demonstrating, through various acts, a gradual withdrawal from the principles which inspired the liberation movement of 11 September.

A great deal of effort has been made toward solving this situation by trying to make him understand his growing personal deviation from these ideals. On several occasions he has been told that his position represents a return to the past experience, which the country does not want to endure, because this government intends not only to correct the mistakes of the old structures but has the goal of making profound changes in our social, political and economic system so that every Chilean man and woman, as well as their children, will be able to enjoy a life of freedom.

Partial solutions, deals and deceitful actions, which so frequently occurred within partisan groups in the past which made us fall into a crisis, are not enough. The steps taken to convince General Leigh that his position was becoming day after day incompatible with the principles for which he fought at one time have been exhausted. No initiative from the president of the country or the other members of this government could resolve the general's definitive withdrawal. This regrettable process became irreversible and concluded in recent days with statements to be released abroad which, both because of their content and the present circumstances, threaten the national security and harm the government and the armed forces and security forces. Under these circumstances, the honorable government junta, by virtue of the powers granted by Decree No 527 of 1974, has unanimously agreed that General Leigh's behavior implies an absolute impossibility to continue exercising the positions of member of the honorable military junta and Chilean Air Force commander in chief.

To correct this situation the nation's president and the honorable government junta have been compelled, by their moral and patriotic duty, to preserve the dignity and order within the armed forces, as well as within the military-civilian alliance, so that they will continue to make advances in the process leading to a new democracy, overwhelmingly backed by the nation in the recent national consultation.

The nation must know that the adopted decision does not in the least affect the Chilean Air Force, which, under the command of Gen Fernando Matthei, will continue, as it did on 11 September 1973, to contribute with its sacrifices and dedication to the common task of working together with the entire nation, for the greatness of Chile.

Let me also assure all Chileans that the country enjoys complete tranquillity and normality.

It could not be otherwise because the armed forces are united in commitment to Chile, the nation's president and the honorable government junta fully supporting them without any personal interest or ambition. We are all united just as we were when we embraced the same principles which moved us to take over the government in September 1973.

As old soldiers we can only express, with emotion and pride, our faith in Chile, our recognition of the loyalty of the armed forces, which conforms to its tradition of service to the fatherland, as well as to the citizenry.

Invoking the name of God, I want to call upon each and every Chilean to renew his faith, his decision and his effort in order to consolidate the union which will make us stronger and which will lead us toward a future of freedom and progress. Thank you.

Matthei Discusses Appointment

FY242032Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1958 GMT 24 Jul 78 FY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 24 Jul--It has been revealed here that Gen Fernando Matthei was thinking about resigning from the Chilean Air Force [RACH] today, when surprisingly he was called to join the government military junta. Matthei replaced Gen Gustavo Leigh this afternoon as "member of the military junta and as commander in chief of the FACH. General Leigh was ousted by the other members of the junta.

In his first remarks after assuming power, the new member of the military junta confirmed that he was planning to resign in view of the disagreements between General Leigh and President Augusto Pinochet. "I had reached a point of not being able to bear any longer the political course which General Leigh was imposing on the air force," Matthei said. Visibly nervous, he added in his remarks to the press that "I regret that I had to be his successor."

According to him, he arrived early this morning at his office at the Health Ministry--he was minister of health--when he received a telephone call to go and see the president, General Pinochet. "I went to the president's office and there I met the chief of state and the members of the government junta. They told me that they had appointed me commander in chief of the air force," Matthei related.

Air Force Will Not Resist

FY241727Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1714 GMT 24 Jul 78 FY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 24 Jul--Gen Gustavo Leigh, who was dismissed from his position in the Chilean Government military junta today, denied the possibility of a reaction due to this measure. The air force will not resist, stated General Leigh, who was air force commander in chief until this morning. Leigh made this statement at his office in the National Defense Ministry.

Court Fight Threatened

FY251245Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 25 Jul 78 FY

[Text] In Chile Gen Gustavo Leigh has warned that he does not accept the decision made by General Pinochet and the other two members of the military junta who relieved him of his duties. Leigh even threatened to take the case to court.

He emphasized that his removal from the junta is a flagrant violation of existing laws, since those who dismissed him were not empowered to do so. Therefore, he will take the issue to court to demand the annulment of Pinochet's decision.

Air Force Reshuffle

PY250218Y Santiago Chile Radio Agricultura in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 78 PY

[Text of communique issued by Chilean Defense Ministry on 24 July]

[Text] 1. Through a resolution of the Aviation Under Secretariat dated 24 July 1978, Gen Jorge Gustavo Leigh Guzman, commander in chief of the Chilean Air Force [FACH] and member of the honorable government junta, is retired.

2. Through a supreme decree from the Aviation Under Secretariat dated 24 July 1978, the following FACH generals are retired: Maj Gen Jose Vicente Martini Lema, Maj Gen Nicanor Diaz de Estrada, Maj Gen Sergio Leigh Guzman, Brig Gen Gerardo Lopez Angulo, Brig Gen Sergio Figueroa Gutierrez, Brig Gen Raul Vargas, Brig Gen Jacobo Atala and Brig Gen Eduardo Fournet.

3. The registration of the resolution having been completed by the nation's attorney general, the national defense minister has communicated this resolution to the generals mentioned in the preceeding paragraph.

4. Through a supreme decree from the Aviation Under Secretariat dated 24 July 1978, Brig Gen Fernando Matthei is named commander in chief of the FACH.

5. During a special ceremony held in the Diego Portales Building, presided over by his excellency the president of the republic, Gen Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, and in the presence of the members of the honorable government junta, Adm Jose Toribio Merino Castro and carabineros Director Cesar Mendoza Duran, the attorney general of the nation, the president of the Supreme Court, state ministers, generals, admirals, and under secretaries, General Matthei was sworn in at 1245 today as a member of the honorable government junta.

6. Brig Gen Fernando Matthei assumed his new post in the presence of the national defense minister and FACH officials. [passage indistinct] After this ceremony the FACH commander held a meeting with the generals and high-ranking officers of the air force.

7. The supreme decree promoting nine FACH colonels to the rank of brigadier general is now going through official channels.

8. Col [name indistinct] is also retired by presidential order. The resolution promoting Lt Col Enrique Montero, presently interior under secretary, to the rank of colonel is now going through official channels.

9. As usual, there is complete normality and calm in the armed forces and peace-keeping institutions, which are offering their full support and loyalty to the supreme government.

Promoted Colonels Named

PY250247Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0211 GMT 25 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 24 Jul--Nine colonels were promoted to generals in the Chilean Air Force [FACH] today, to replace those who were retired by the air force commander in chief.

The new designations took place right after the government military junta agreed to replace Gen Gustavo Leigh, commander in chief of FACH and member of the government junta, with Gen Fernando Matthei.

Matthei, who was 10th in air force seniority, assumed his post at a ceremony held at the government palace.

According to the sources, General Matthei promoted the following colonels to general:

Juan Pablo Gonzalez, Carlos Desgroux, Jorge Rojas, Mario Lopez, Pablo Saldias, Romulo Opazo, Nelson Sepulveda, Guillermo Sandoval and Sergio Pineiro.

PRESIDENT LOPEZ SAYS STATE OF SIEGE IS NECESSARY

PA250325Y Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 21 Jul 78 p 1 PA

[Text] In his message to Congress, President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen said that the country cannot afford the luxury of abolishing the state of siege in the coming years.

I believe, the president said, that normalcy will depend on the efficiency with which rulers make use of Article 121 and the temperance and prudence with which they administer it, avoiding the excesses that would make it odious while using it as a specific political weapon to maintain a specific type of government.

In view of the Supreme Court of Justice ruling which frustrated efforts by the government and the Congress to give the country institutions that could respond to the chronic situation of civic strikes and blackmail by regions, municipalities, departments, labor unions and professional organizations--which pursue the state as if it were some sort of prize of which they must get an increasingly larger slice--the institution of the state of siege has become a juridical statute capable of ensuring normalcy within the historical context prevailing in our society at present and possibly in the future, a context for which the state of siege provisions were devised.

PRESIDENT NOTES SEA DELIMITATION ACHIEVEMENTS

PA250229Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 78 PA

[Text] San Andres, Colombia--President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen has announced the U.S. Senate's ratification of the treaties by which the U.S. Government recognizes Colombia's sovereignty over the Roncador and Quita Sueno islets. The president made the revelation during the ceremony inaugurating a communications tower which will permit this island to have permanent telephone and telegraph connections via statellite with the rest of the country.

In his farewell speech to the people of San Andres, the president expressed satisfaction over his administration's achievements in delimiting marine and submarine areas. Lopez Michelsen said he is especially pleased that during his government the delimitation of our seas was achieved and that the country did not lose a single inch of territory either by the sword or the pen. The chief of state indicated that the treaties to delimit the marine and submarine areas were broadly advantageous to Colombia. He added that this was not due to the ability of any official but essentially to the privileged position of San Andres which, he said, served as a point of support to raise the immense weight of our marine dominion. [sentence as heard] Lopez Michelsen stressed that the special location of the archipelago obtained for Colombia a position of predominance in that area of the Caribbean.

LIBERAL PARTY EXTENDS HUERTA MONTALVO'S LEAVE OF ABSENCE

PA220008Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jul 78 PA

[Text] The Ecuadorean Liberal Party is once again experiencing internal conflicts. The leaders of the party's supreme directorate led by Daniel Alvarez Tenorio have extended indefinitely the compulsory leave of absence they gave several months ago to director Francisco Huerta Montalvo, a former presidential candidate. The group also warned that if he continues his [word indistinct] attitude, disciplinary measures will be taken.

Huerta Montalvo was given a leave of absence as a result of the Fedesarrollo [Foundation for Education and Development] case, which also led to his elimination from the presidential campaign and his replacement by his uncle Huerta Rendon. According to unofficial reports, Huerta Rendon placed third in last Sunday's election.

At the expiration of the leave, Huerta Montalvo announced (?that he was resuming his party duties). But even as he was receiving the immediate support of the provincial directorates, particularly those in the highlands, the supreme directorate was extending the leave indefinitely, claiming that the situation which led to its issuance has not yet been cleared up.

Huerta Montalvo was the Liberal candidate for only a few weeks, but he was disqualified by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal before the Liberals were recognized as a party. This decision was later ratified by the Supreme Court of Justice. In his place the supreme board appointed his uncle, Raul Clemente Huerta Rendon.

Huerta Montalvo Reaction

PA231721Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 23 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] According to a report from Guayaquil, Dr Francisco Huerta Montalvo criticized the fact that his party's supreme board has ostracized him and prevented him from resuming his duties as party director, by granting him an indefinite leave of absence. He described as equivocal and far removed from reality the Liberal Party's activities in the recent elections and electoral campaign. According to him, the party's leadership has splintered into countless little groups which the supreme board is now trying to bring together in order to form the so-called single democratic front, all the while forgetting that the party should have its flag to guide the country's politics.

Huerta refused to predict what the second ticket will be in the final elections for president and vice president of the republic. He criticized the activities of the Liberal Party's supreme board which, he said, should be limited to achieving party unity.

He recalled that a Liberal assembly elected him national director and he produced messages received from the Liberal Party's boards in Pichincha, Cotopaxi, Tungurahua and Carchi, among others, expressing their satisfaction and congratulations over his resumption of the national leadership of the Liberal Party. Nonetheless, it has been impossible for him to do this because the supreme board has granted him an indefinite leave of absence.

He once again described several supreme board members as vultures and hinted that he might organize a new liberal party.

When asked if he thought the Liberals would have won more votes if he had been the candidate, Huerta Montalvo did not respond. But when told that youth had won, he said: Roldos is young, but so am I. In any event, the Liberal Party with its democratic tradition will respect the people's sovereign will as expressed in the elections.

FOCEP, UDP SEVER TIES WITH SOCIALIST REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

PA241929Y Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 19 Jul 78 p 3 PA

[Text] The Peasant, Student and Workers Popular Front (FOCEP) and Popular Democratic Union (UDP) yesterday confirmed that they have severed political ties with the Socialist Revolutionary Party (PSR), which is led by Leonidas Rodriguez Figueroa, and that they recognize only the PSR's dissident faction led by Antonio Aragon.

The announcement was made by Hugo Blanco, one of FOCEP's leaders, during a news conference to which Aragon and Alfonso Barrantes Lingan, UDP's official representative, were invited. Blanco attacked Rodriguez Figueroa, accusing him of being responsible for "the massacres of Cobriza and Huanta." In this regard, he said: "This cannot be forgotten so easily. At least, Aragon left him....."

Blanco, a former guerrilla, particularly attacked the Constituent Assembly, despite the fact that, as of today, he will be part of it. He promised to wage a harsh vocal battle in the assembly to prove that the assembly is going to be a farce.

Afterward, he announced that FOCEP is not going to form alliances with the Peruvian Aprist Party (PAP) or the Popular Christian Party (PPC), "because it would be like mixing water with oil." In a characteristic way, Hugo Blanco also discarded a possible agreement with the Caceres Velasquez group. [Roger Caceres Velasquez, secretary general of the peasants and workers national front]

HAYA DE LA TORRE DISCUSSES CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

PA241526Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0242 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 23 Jul (EFE)--According to Aprist leader Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, the Peruvian constitution should be pragmatic and realistic with a view to the future.

Haya de la Torre currently presides over the Constituent Assembly's preparatory board. The assembly will be installed on 28 July and it is generally assumed that Haya will be its president also.

During an interview, the politician described the assembly as the first power of the state and said he views his present post as "the armed forces' acknowledgment of the sovereignty of the popular vote."

Haya defined Peru as an "underdeveloped country in search of prosperity and happiness for its citizens" and affirmed that this should become one of the Constituent Assembly's objectives. According to the 83-year-old leader, the text drafted by the assembly will have to take into consideration the problems of growth, development and the implementation of principles of practical humanism such as those concerned with health, work and well-being. Haya added that the laws must be drafted with "a futurist outlook, more advanced than our present reality," which can then guarantee a practical implementation of those principles.

Haya explained that the constitution will be drafted by several commissions. He also announced that President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez will not be invited to the ceremony for the assembly's installation.

The Constituent Assembly has been given a 1-year deadline to draft a constitution. According to the military government's plan, once this is done, presidential elections will be held.

HIGH OFFICIAL DENIES POSSIBILITY OF GAS NEGOTIATIONS

PA212359Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1704 GMT 21 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Jul (EFE)--A top Mexican Government official today categorically denied the possibility that Mexico will renegotiate the sale of natural gas to the United States, which was canceled some months ago by the U.S. Congress.

Patrimony and Industrial Development Minister Jose Andres de Oteyza stressed that his country "is not willing" to undertake any renegotiation regarding prices and the volume of gas sales. The statement was an answer to recent assertions by U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Patrick Lucey, who said that his government is willing to start new talks on the matter.

At the beginning of this year the U.S. Congress refused to authorize the daily importation of 2 billion cubic feet of Mexican natural gas at $2.60 per 1,000 cubic feet because it considered the price excessive. The sale had been concluded between the state-owned Petroleos Mexicanos firm (PEMEX) and six U.S. firms and was cancelled after PEMEX had started the construction of a gas pipeline from the rich hydrocarbon deposits in the Mexican southeast to the northern Mexican border.

The government decided to continue construction of this pipeline, but to supply the industrial cities of the north with gas. At that time the government also expressed its refusal to export those hydrocarbons. However, recently, PEMEX Director Jorge Diaz Serrano said that negotiations might start again if the president gave his approval.

AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS URGED

PA232314Y Paris AFP in English 2255 GMT 23 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Jul (AFP)--A number of Mexican political groups, including the Communist Party, today urged the Mexican Congress to pass an amnesty bill in favor of political prisoners.

A national committee for defense of political prisoners and peoples who have disappeared said it would ask the government to give "a political answer to national problems, rather than responding with repression." The committee said it would launch a national "crusade" on behalf of political prisoners. It said there were about 600 such prisoners in Mexico.

The Mexican Government denied that there are political prisoners in the country, saying that prisoners claiming this status are really common law criminals.

The committee plans a demonstration on behalf of those it regards as political prisoners in Mexico City on Wednesday.

BRIEFS

IMPORT INCREASES--There has been a 29 percent increase in the importation of machinery, equipment and capital goods in general during the first half of the year, in comparison with the same period in 1977. The Commerce Secretariat has reported that from January to June it granted 95,234 import permits to both the public and private sectors. The largest number of permits were for the importation of boilers, machines and mechanical objects. [Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA]

FORMER TREATY NEGOTIATOR APPREHENSIVE ABOUT CANAL AUTHORITIES

PA2019S6Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 19 Jul 78 PA

[Statement by Edwin Fabrega, former Panama Canal treaty negotiator, during interview with Televisora Nacional on 19 July 1978--recorded]

[Excerpt] We explained earlier that the national committee in charge of organizing the implementation of the treaty which is chaired by Vice President Gonzalez has to deal with several subjects. Therefore, eight commissions, eight basic commissions, have been created. These are the commissions on the administration of lands and waters, on business administration, public services, labor affairs, defense and security, the basin and the environment, the organization of the government entity which should respond or assume responsibility for the subject and on the development plans of the current Canal Zone and its area of influences.

The commissions will have full-time officials and coordinators on them. Each of these commissions will have subcommissions--which number more than 30--on specific subjects: for instance, licenses for the use of the soil, licenses for business operations, allocation and administration of public buildings, ports, the railroad, housing, profit-making organizations, nonprofit organizations--on more than 30 specific subjects.

Each of these subcommissions will have a group of advisers assigned to it which is the group which we are inviting now to participate. Each subcommission will have representatives from the organized groups so they can air their views and make recommendations so the policy drawn up or decisions made there will take into account all the necessary factors so the Canal Zone can really and effectively become incorporated into national life.

These groups of advisers will meet every time one of the subcommissions has concluded some work with its counterpart of the [Canal] Zone of the U.S. Government. They will be consulted on the agreements reached or proposals made so that the recommendation can be introduced to the committee appointed by General Torrijos in order for it to adopt a policy and make the appropriate decision. We have from now until 1 October 1979, the first day the treaty goes into effect. We hope that through this work everything will continue operating normally when 1 October 1979 comes around.

But I also want to say that we have one apprehension, which consists of the fact that the zone authorities have been drawing up plans and organizing on their own accord and, most likely, since they are already there they will begin implementing plans now or begin to stop certain activities halfway, while we cannot go in there until the specified date. I would like to address this message to that group. We are aware of the problem, aware that they have their limitations for fiscal reasons, but we do not want any activity to collapse or, when we enter there to take it over, be unable to find anybody to turn it over to us.

LABOR MINISTER LAUDS REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT, HITS OPPOSITION

PA2204l3Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2004 GMT 21 Jul 78 PA

[Speech by Panamanian Labor Minister Adolfo Ahumada at the Imperial Theater in David --live]

[Excerpts] General Torrijos, Colonel Garcia, Vice President Gonzalez, Gentlemen. The dialog that is being held this afternoon is the result of the broad, serious and flexible nature of the revolutionary process and the govnerment which leads it.

It is manifest proof of the positive results and real benefits that can be obtained on behalf of understanding the general situation of the country and more specifically of each of the provinces by exchanging views and listening to the opinion of various productive sectors, in this case, of Chiriqui Province.

It is hard to conceive of another system that permits such direct, extensive and frequent communication between the governed and the governing. International experiences and the experiences of our own country have made us reach the conclusion that, in fact, this system of direct, broad and honest communication--from pitcher to catcher, as General Torrijos says--is what has truly permitted the finding of harmonious solutions to our communities' most important problems.

Any other theory is just that, a theory. It does not permit the search for mechanism, formulas and paths to resolve the real human problems in our country. Our historical experiences enable us to reach the conclusion that the systems in effect in the country before 11 October 1968 did not provide real answers to the people's problems, in part because when there were some abstract formulas for settling issues, these only created despair, deception and a situation of dismay among our people, particularly among the poorer sectors. When occasional decisions were made to undertake projects, the people always felt that the projects were not being undertaken to provide real, sincere solutions to their problems but to produce profits for the pockets of three or four bosses. That belief was always present in the republic's life. The revolutionary government, besides using the mechanism of dialog to solve problems, has also been able to establish a new attitude among Panamanians who are now convinced that projects are not undertaken for dishonest aims but on the contrary, for the purpose of seeking the harmonious advance and progress of this country. We are sure that the people will not permit this situation to end and allow a return to the dishonest times of the past. [applause]

This is one of the achievements of the revolutionary process that we quite often forget to mention. This is due to another factor. Some speakers have mentioned it. Contrary to the claims that this process has begun to identify itself with universal trends or ideological formulations, what has occurred is that the march of the revolution has been guided by a truly pragmatic sense, a practical sense that does not need prior ideological labels to be able to give solutions and replies to the masses' problems. That broad practical sense is what has also permitted the development of a revolutionary process which is capable of organizing itself in a broad, flexible and multiclass revolutionary party--which are the words that General Torrijos used this morning.

Let us take a look. In Panama there emerged the theory that this revolutionary process could not continue to exist because it was deceiving the people. For example, when the Torrijos-Carter treaties were being discussed, it was said that there was not going to be a plebiscite. Then it was said that a plebiscite would be held without a broad, free and democratic debate. That broad, free and democratic debate was held. Some called it an Indian summer. It has become a year-round condition. The revolutionary government's attitude of deep sincerity was utilized not to discuss issues related with the treaty but to slander the revolutionary process and its leaders. But there was that great freedom. The government even paid for time so that the enemies of the treaty could express their views.

They say that is a dictatorship, that Panama is a dictatorship. I have never seen such a dictatorship. Well, [to them] it is still a dictatorship. Later it was said that the results of the plebiscite would be fraudulent and unrespected. When the results of the plebiscite objectively reflected the votes cast, it was still said that there was fraud, thus naturally slandering the persons, particularly the teachers who monitored the October plebiscite.

They said there was fraud. They then said that this was not the problem, that the problem was that there were too many exiles. Among those exiles there were many who had chosen to live in exile and who lived much better than we Panamanians here. The issue was that there were too many exiles. When General Torrijos announced on 18 April that all these gentlemen could return, they could no longer wave this banner. Then another problem emerged. It was said that some of those exiles had charges pending because they had participated in guerrilla movements. It was then explained that even if they had committed such acts they could also return and would not be prosecuted, even if they had charges against them.

Then another problem emerged: There were no political parties. So the general said, okay, let's have political parties. Then he said, let's create a high-level commission. He even appointed Romulo [Escobar Bethancourt], Gonzalez-Revilla and Aristides [Royo] to represent the government. They do not appoint anyone because they want a prior statement that the National Guard will withdraw to the garrisons, guard the borders and never involve itself in politics. It is that or nothing. Then one of them says--apparently in an uncontrolled outburst of honesty--that the problem was not that, but the overthrow of the revolutionary government. The picture is now clear.

They also have the hope of an internal division within the National Guard. They are still living in 1968. The problem is that they have stayed in 1968 and have not wanted to recognize that one of the basic factors of the process has been the strength of the internal unity of the National Guard. They sometimes even try to incite National Guard officers, believing that we are living in the country's past.

Another of their hopes was that the United States would start to pressure or use its great international influence to overthrow the revolutionary process. That is why they did not want Carter to come. Carter recognized that and he eliminated the hopes that the United States would employ its old policies. Carter himself said that U.S. leaders no longer thought of using those policies. So they are left without the hope that they could overthrow the revolutionary government through the United States.

That is why they are desperately calling for a general strike, a general strike that cannot be held without the support of the businessmen, the majority of whom support this process, and a general strike that cannot be held without the support of the workers, particularly those of Chiriqui who have always supported this process. [applause]

Those desperate actions demand that all of the people maintain a firm and calm attitude of remaining alert, of deepening discussion, of achieving the highest production in order to strengthen the country's economy, and of solving disagreements on the basis of dialog and not confrontation. We cannot under these conditions irresponsibly declare, as has now been done by a group of doctors who seem to be influenced by someone with other political motives, strikes for an immediate 300-balboa wage increase at a time when we have to implement an emergency plan to help the country's most needy people. [applause] It is an attitude of dialog and talk that solve differences.

That is why our attitude should be one of vigilance, work, dialog and frank and calm discussion of all the problems in order to reach a suitable combination between the tasks we have to undertake now so we can enter the Canal Zone and those which we have to undertake to solve our internal problems, the problems of all sectors of the Panamanian people, some of which you have brought up today. That is a clear, firm and revolutionary attitude. That is why I want to conclude by saying that in the face of Arnulfism [nameria], peace and harmony, in the face of Arnulfism [nameria], progress and sovereignty. Thank you.

ARIAS SAYS HE HAS NOT RETURNED FOR PRESIDENCY

PA241552Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0115 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Santiago (Veraguas, Panama), 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Former Panamanian president and Panamenist (opposition) Party leader, Arnulfo Arias today, Sunday, reaffirmed in the town of Sona, 299 km south of the capital, that he has not come to seek the presidency but to restore democracy in the country.

Speaking to supporters at a rally, Arias said that "I have not come to seek the presidency of the republic, but to bring a ray of light and hope to the people."

Arias, who returned to the country on 10 June after spending almost 10 years exile in Miami, is currently on a tour throughout Panamanian territory demanding the overthrow of Gen Omar Torrijos. He gave his most important speech in Sona. He said that after 47 years of public activity, he sees life with hope. The experienced politician stressed that unity must prevail in the face of the presen system.

Arias, jointly with his retinue, toured the main towns of Veraguas Province yesterday and today. This morning, he led the opposition rally which paraded through Santiago's main street. At Santiago's plaza, Arias said that ever since1931 "my little heart has been beating along with the hearts of the Panamanian people." He urged his followers to think and meditate about what they must do in order to raise the republic from the bottom to the top.

Arias, who was president three times and was overthrown each time, said that the night before last he could not sleep at the thought of Panama's debt, which is more than $3 billion. The Panamenist leader added that they [not further identified] want to introduce an exotic doctrine in order to suck from the people their material, spiritual and moral life. He also denounced the mismanagement of public funds.

For his part, Gen Omar Torrijos has also been touring the country in view of the 6 August elections in which 505 representatives to the assembly will be elected. These representatives will in turn elect the president of the republic for a 6-year term. A few days ago, Torrijos announced the creation of the Democratic Revolutionary (government) Party and a "top-level commission" which will study the implementation of an electoral law and constitutional amendments aimed at normalizing the free interplay of political parties in Panama.

The only party that has currently announced that it will participate in the commission is the Liberal Party (the second-ranking opposition party). The other opposition parties--the Panamenist among them--have not shown any interest in participating in the commission announced by the government.

PANAMENIST LEADER PROMOTING DOCTORS STRIKE

PA211654Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 21 Jul 78 pp 1, 20 PA

[Excerpts] It was clearly established in interviews conducted by CRITICA reporters with doctors working in different medical centers in this capital that Carlos Young Adames, member of the Panamenist Party leadership and Dr Arnulfo Arias' political heir, is openly promoting the strike that the nation's doctors have announced. Young Adames returned to the country less than 2 months ago after 10 years in exile in Miami, the United States, together with Dr Arias.

According to some doctors and to our investigations, Carlos Young Adames is one of the main advisers of the group which wants to go on strike. He has met with them several times and is clearly influencing their decisions, urging them not to give up their salary increase demand which ranges from 300 to 500 balboas monthly. Young Adames is obviously seeking to affect current politics with his participation. Proof of this is that he has promised several doctors that he will have Arnulfo Arias visit the children's hospital today to support the strike.

In the meantime, we have confirmed that the government is not going to give in to many of the doctors' outrageous demands. They want to establish a series of privileges that are unacceptable, especially if we take into consideration the difference in salary when compared with other citizens who are as professional as the doctors are. Under the present circumstances, the government is going to maintain its rights and reaffirm the legitimacy of its position regarding this problem.

It is worth mentioning the fact that it was precisely this government which created a series of special measures for every Panamanian who wished to study medicine by eliminating racial discrimination, social position and political creed. With this action it was possible to eliminate control over the field of medicine by a group of families. Today it is possible for any member of our community to become a doctor. The conclusion reached in our investigation was that these are factors which in a short time will permit readjustments to be made in the profession.

Strike Movement Expands

PA221443Y Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish 1220 GMT 22 Jul 78 PA

[Sercano Network]

[Text] The Social Security Fund's Association of Odontological Doctors and Related Personnel last night joined the intern and resident doctors' strike, thus expanding the strike movement which had already been joined by the members of the National Medical Association and the Santo Tomas Hospital's specialists. The doctors are only caring for truly urgent cases while Health Ministry and the Social Security Fund's medical officials are providing special services.

The striking doctors are demanding a salary adjustment of at least 300 balboas. Public Health Minister Dr Abraham Saied is expected to make a new counteroffer today. Last night, the members of the technical board were analyzing this counteroffer. For its part, the National Association of Nurses will decide on its position regarding the conflict today.

Continues Unresolved

PA241352Y Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish 1220 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Sercano Network]

[Excerpt] The country's hospitals have continued to render emergency services only. For the time being, there is no solution in sight for the indefinite strike declared by the interns and residents with the support of the doctors of the Social Security Fund and specialists of Santo Tomas Hospital. Health Ministry sources said that a meeting scheduled for yesterday had to be cancelled because of new and impossible salary demands and that there is very little likelihood that it will be held today.

Doctors Present Demands

PA241559Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0222 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Groups which are presently on strike for an indefinite period, today established a national medical negotiating commission to present to the country's top health authorities the following aspirations of each of the groups in a single document:

1. The government will give guarantees that it does not intend to interfere with the constitutional right to the free exercise of their profession by doctors in government service who are not in training.

2. Doctors will have tenure after having worked for a minimum of 2 years with a government institution and will not be subject to dismissal without cause or to transfer from one city to another without the consent of the interested party.

3. The government will pledge to maintain the present law on interns--their rotation and wages--adjusted to the new medical scale presented herein.

4. The Health Ministry will pledge to consult with all the medical associations represented here on the need for training of new doctors in the country.

5. The government will pledge to immediately pay unpaid back wages to doctors--for January, 1970 and January, 1971--in accordance with Article 8 of the Medical Classification Scale for Physicians, Odontologists, Chiropractors and Optometrists and in line with the basic social security law approved in September, 1968.

6. The government will pledge to implement the medical scale presented by the national medical negotiating commission.

7. The government will guarantee the enforcement of the law on wage equivalency for all doctors employed by the government.

8. We request the participation of the medical groups which make up this commission in the drafting of the new health code.

9. The government will pledge to plan and execute, within a short period of time, physical improvements and improvements in the staff and budget of the Santo Tomas Hospital.

10. Changes of category will automatically be effective every 3 years.

11. All the country's doctors will receive a 6 percent basic wage increase every 2 years.

12. The government will guarantee that no reprisals will be taken against the members of this national medical negotiating commission or against any of the members of these medical groups either during the negotiating process or afterward.

The national medical negotiating commission will be made up of three representatives of each of the member groups and it will be the only organization with authority to negotiate regarding the aspirations of the member groups.

COSTA RICA

INTERIOR MINISTER ON SITUATION AT NICARAGUAN BORDER

PA250318Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Jul 78 PA

[Text] The interior minister has stated: We have never lifted our vigilance in the border area, and any person participating in subversive political activities will definitively have to leave the country. Plutarco Hernandez has been pointed out as the person responsible for the attacks on Los Sabalos and El Castillo. According to the Nicaraguan Government newspaper NOVEADES, the attacks were carried out from Costa Rican territory.

Costa Rican Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey stated that vigilance along the border with Nicaragua has been kept as it was, and that what took place yesterday was a changeover of men and not a reinforcement of the vigilance force because it has never been weak. Vigilance is being maintained, he said.

Forces of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] and of the Nicaraguan National Guard engaged in bitter fighting in the localities of Los Sabalos and El Castillo and as a result two persons died. According to [words indistinct] in Nicaragua, the operations were organized in Costa Rica. The Costa Rican public security minister has stated that there are at least 100,000 Nicaraguans on our territory and that 60,000 of them do not like the Nicaraguan regime.

Costa Rica continues to act as normal in the border area despite the situation in Nicaragua. The Interior Ministry has not changed its policies in view of the tense situation in Nicaragua which has affected areas very close to the Costa Rican border.

Col Ramon (Umana), chief of the police in the country, said this afternoon that the situation is completely calm in the northern region and that there have been no more shootouts or any other similar actions. He added that there has been no report of any FSLN movements, especially in the border area where they allegedly operate with some freedom.

The Nicaraguan National Guard is on the alert in the border area expecting a possible attack from the FSLN, according to statements from Colonel (Umana). [words indistinct] that the reports he has from the border region indicate that so far the Nicaraguan National Guard has respected Costa Rica's territory. At the beginning it was thought that vigilance had been reinforced in areas such as [words indistinct] and surrounding areas, but that rumor has been denied by high-level Costa Rican authorities who have said that the recent movement of forces was part of a relief operation.

COMMUNIST PAPER SPECULATES ON FUTURE NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT

PA221358Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2219 GMT 21 Jul 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--LIBERATED, the official organ of the Popular Vanguard Party, has expressed the opinion that the establishment of a socialist government in Nicaragua is not possible at this time. After emphasizing that the best thing for the country and for Central America in general would be the downfall of President Anastasio Somoza, and with him the Nicaraguan National Gurad, the paper said it is necessary to establish a democratic and progressive popular government which will defend the sovereignty of Nicaragua.

"At this time," LIBERTAD said, "imperialism as well as the most reactionary sectors of the bourgeoisie are probably maneuvering to insure for themselves control of the government that will follow Somoza's fall. They are surely fearful of a popular insurrection."

The paper said that whatever government is established in Nicaragua, it will have to guarantee the people a broad margin of democratic freedoms so that they can develop their struggle organizations.

LIBERTAD said that when Somoza falls, "no one will be able to prevent the most democratic and progressive forces of the Nicaraguan people from moving into the political field to play an important and eventually decisive role."

PRESIDENT REFUSES TO SUBMIT TO LABOR PRESSURE

PA221201Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2032 GMT 21 Jul 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo has ruled out the possibility that his government will submit to pressure to solve the country's economic and social problems. In a brief comment apparently addressed to labor groups which have been "stoking the fire" in recent weeks to gain their objectives, the chief of state reiterated that his government, on the other hand, will agree to participate in talks.

"What certain persons have tried to impose on us in recent days," Carazo said, "is not a dialog, but rather pressure and demands, and I reject this." The banana areas seem to be the most inclined toward conflict. In these areas, communist-influenced labor groups have taken the lead in exercising pressure.

EL SALVADOR

GUATEMALAN EMBASSY DAMAGED BY TERRORIST EXPLOSION

PA241557Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1452 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The clandestine Revolutionary People's Army (ERP) today, Monday, reported that it had planted a bomb at the Guatemalan Embassy in this country. The bomb, which exploded at 0520 local time (1120 GMT), destroyed walls and glass windows in the building located at 15th North Avenue 135 in this capital.

ERP made anonymous calls to various news services here claiming responsibility for the terrorist explosion, which it said was carried out to protest the climate of repression in Guatemala. Col Carlos Lemus Gallardo, Guatemalan ambassador to El Salvador, announced that a report had already been filed to his government.

ERP Communique

PA250146Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0024 GMT 25 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 24 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--A communique issued by the illegal Revolutionary Peoples Army (ERP) was circulated in the afternoon here today, Monday, in which the ERP claimed credit for and explained the reasons behind the planting of a bomb in the Guatemalan Embassy in this capital.

The communique states that a "platoon" of this subversive organization planted a "mine" in the embassy in solidarity "with the people and the peoples revolutionary movement of Guatemala which are now suffering the effects of repression." "The Panzos massacre in which over 100 indians were killed is only a small sample of the ruthless tyranny ruling that sister country," the ERP communique said.

The ERP asserted that during the past 25 (?years) over 20,000 persons have been killed in what they called the revolutionary struggle. They said that the recent presidential election in Guatemala was an "electoral masquerade." The ERP said that activities to attain "Central America's liberation" are increasing and made special mention of the existing situation in Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SUBMITS REQUESTS TO GOVERNMENT

PA221420Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1220 GMT 22 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Faithfully fulfilling its humanitarian objectives of defending human dignity and values, the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission by this means [as heard] makes the following requests of the national government.

A. That the laws currently in effect in our country be (?really) respected.

B. That minor Roberto Ramos, who is protected not only by the tutelary law on minors but also by the moral rules implemented in every civilized nation, be immediately released.

C. That the property, jewels, money and merchandise arbitrarily seized from Mrs Maura Ramos be immediately returned.

D. That the repressive measures which [word indistinct] legal order and the state of right which all Salvadorans without distinction of any kind should be able to enjoy, be ended.

These requests have been made as a result of El Salvador's current climate.

PRESIDENT CALLS ON SOLDIERS TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY

PA221600Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1225 GMT 22 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Ilopango, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran president, Gen Carlos Humberto Romero, today asked the soldiers who will return home within a few days to struggle for the continuation of democracy in the country. Speaking at the general air force headquarters located on the outskirts of town 9 km east of San Salvador, the president invited the soldiers of the 1977-78 class, who will return home after 16 months of obligatory military service, to act patriotically at all times.

Only in this manner, he added, can El Salvador become a prosperous, fertile and great fatherland where everybody may live harmoniously without misery or fear. Romeroy then scored the leftwing extremists who for years have been creating problems in the country, stressing that there are bad Salvadorans "who abuse our healthy, honest and sincere people and try to confuse them with preachings that lead to the loss of man's most precious achievement--freedom."

GUATEMALA

LABOR LEADER DIES, DEMONSTRATIONS URGED

PA232344Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1745 GMT 23 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Mario Rolando Mugia, a labor leader who was shot by four unidentified persons last Thursday in Huehuetenango, northwestern Guatemala, died today, Sunday, in a private hospital in this capital. Mugia, the regional secretary of the National Confederation of Workers, died of cardiovascular failure. He had been brought here this morning from the Huehuetenango National Hospital so he could receive better medical attention.

Mugia will be buried tomorrow and appeals are already being made to labor activists and peasants to mourn him with "a demonstration of popular unity and repudiation of repression."

It was originally reported that Mugia had died in the attack. However, it was announced yesterday afternoon that he was still alive and would be transferred to the capital. During a flight especially arranged for his transfer, he had a heart attack and was in critical condition upon admission to a private hospital.

Mugia, 31, was an adviser to several peasant leagues and mining unions. His death has been attributed to "industrial and landowning" sectors in the Huehueteca region. The attack which led to his death today took place on Thursday on the parade grounds located in the provincial capital. None of the eyewitnesses was able to intervene since they were held off with weapons by the attackers, who have not been located.

HONDURAS

COMMUNIST PARTY TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS

PA231802Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1607 GMT 23 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Communist Party [PCH], which has been underground for over 30 years, has announced that it will participate in the elections to return power to civilians. Rigoberto Padilla Rush, member of the PCH Political Commission, criticized the new law on elections, describing it as antidemocratic because it restricts the citizens' participation under the pretext of banning popular parties.

Together with other combative political groups, the communists took part in a forum sponsored by the Central Institute, the country's most important high school educational center.

Padilla said he feels it is urgent to hold free elections with broad participation as "an alternative to the crisis Honduras is experiencing."

The Christian Democrats also criticized the armed forces government, noting that elections to rid the country of "military corruption" must not be postponed. For his party, Carlos Montoya, leader of the Traditional Liberal Party, said his party rejects any possibility that Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, the current head of state, may remain in power because it feels that any support given to Melgar would mean "the destruction of liberalism."

PEASANTS TO CONTINUE LAND SEIZURES

PA211725Y San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Jul 78 p 34 PA

[Text] "The peasants will again start occupying lands because otherwise there will be no agrarian reform," Victor Inocencio Peralta, acting secretary general of the National Union of Peasants (UNC), has said. According to Peralta, members of the organizations which compose the National Agrarian Reform Committee (Conara), after a meeting with officials of the Agrarian Reform Institute (INA), reached the conclusion that the institution "cannot carry out an agrarian reform."

At the end of the meeting held last week, the peasant leaders of Conara said they had been informed in a review of the work plan about the recovery, expropriation and granting of lands and the problems INA faces in implementing these duties. Peralta said that Francisco Portillo, chief of INA's central office of land adjudication, told them that the office "had issued expropriation resolutions for 13,150 hectares of land from January to June of this year."

Peralta added: "These lands which INA intends to expropriate, aside from being subject to countersuits by the owners, are too little to meet the peasants' demands." Peralta emphasized statements by Portillo to the effect that "the Supreme Court is infringing upon the agreements of the Agrarian Reform Institute."

According to Peralta, Portillo cited as an example the expropriation started by INA in El Obraje because it was an unidivided estate (proindiviso) at the time Article 27 of the agrarian reform entered into force, "but the court annulled it." "Portillo told us that if the court continues protecting landholders with undivided estates it will not be possible to implement an agrarian reform because this will be the legal measure the landholders will resort to against the peasants," Peralta said. "That is why we want to make it clear to INA authorities that the peasants will continue to occupy lands," he concluded.

LABOR LEADERS DEMAND CHANGES IN ARMED FORCES

PA211548Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2212 GMT 20 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The powerful Confederation of Honduran Workers (CTH), with which most of the country's labor organizations are affiliated, has asked the government "to clean up the armed forces."

The most important labor leaders issued a communique today in which they ask the armed forces to take the necessary measures "to restore the people's trust in the institution." The communique says "it is necessary for the government to investigate and sanction those involved in drug trafficking and to restore decency in the public administration."

According to the labor leaders, the people's trust will be restored when the judicial branch applies the law correctly and stops acting against the workers and peasants. The lengthy communique also criticizes the government for holding back the agrarian reform process and demands that the land distribution program be resumed based on the principles of the agrarian reform law and that technical and financial aid be given to the peasants.

ARMED FORCES CHIEF DENOUNCES ANTIMILITARY CAMPAIGN

PA211708Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1618 GMT 21 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Policarpo Paz Garcia, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has said that there is a campaign to divide and destroy the army. In a speech published by local newspapers today, Friday, Paz Garcia says that some sectors are unleashing a campaign to undermine the foundations of the military institution. He adds that part of that campaign is continuous accusations against army officers with the intention of discrediting them and undermining the Honduran people's trust in the solidity and firmness of the armed forces. "There is a continuous incitment to rebellion in an effort to show that the honor and loyalty which characterize the armed forces have no reason to exist," Paz Garcia pointed out.

He categorically said that this campaign will be handled with the firmness of character that is part of the Honduran soldier's nature, and by maintaining high honor and discipline. "We are united," he added, "and united we will respond to all tests we are submitted to in fulfilling our duty to the fatherland."

Paz Garcia, who spoke at the anniversary ceremony of a military unit, asked the Honduran people to maintain their confidence in the armed forces because "the enemies of democracy are the ones interested in discrediting our institution." "We have promised to maintain unstained the democratic institutions as the way of life of Hondurans and to guarantee public freedoms," Paz Garcia concluded.

NICARAGUA

'WAVE OF VIOLENCE' REPORTED IN VARIOUS CITIES

PA250346Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0251 GMT 25 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 24 Jul (AFP)--A wave of violence broke out today in various Nicaraguan cities. The violence included bomb explosions, bonfires in the streets and opposition rallies. A young girl and an elderly person were injured and several persons were arrested.

In Niquinchomo, 50 km south of Managua, several bombs exploded and the National Guard arrested participants in spontaneous demonstrations against President Anastasio Somozo. In Jinotepe, 45 km south of Managua, a young girl was injured when she was hit by a tear gas grenade thrown by army personnel into an opposition rally. In Masaya, 30 km south of Managua, two persons were arrested and one was wounded when an attempt was made to hold an opposition rally and troops opened fire.

PAPER SEES COSTA RICA AS 'SANCTUARY OF VIOLENCE'

PA241904Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1640 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 24 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican citizen Plutarco Elias Hernandez, leader of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], was the coordinator of the guerrilla attacks carried out last Saturday night and Sunday morning against the military posts located along the San Juan River in Nicaraguan territory close to the border with Costa Rica. This statement was made today, Monday, by the semiofficial newspaper NOVEDADES which reported that "Hernandez coordinated the attack on Los Sabalos and El Castillo garrisons from the Costa Rican town of Los Chiles because his activities against the Nicaraguan Government do not meet with any type of restriction on the part of the authorities of the neighboring country to the south."

In an official communique released yesterday, the Nicaraguan National Guard announced that as a result of these two subversive attacks, which "originated in Costa Rican territory," the commander of Los Sabalos and a civilian who helped defend El Castillo garrison were killed, while six other persons, among them one woman and one girl, were wounded.

NOVEDADES expresses its "strong protest over the violation of the bilateral and regional treaties of which Costa Rica is a signatory which forbid tolerating or promoting armed attacks on territories with which normal relations are maintained." The newspaper, owned by the ruling family, charges that Costa Rican territory "continues to be a sanctuary of violence which operates as it did in its heyday [mejores tiempos] while the repeated promises that it would not serve attacks on friendly countries constitutes merely another chapter in the fantasy-filled and demagogic verbalism of those holding public posts."

Until recently Plutarco Elias Hernandez had been in a San Jose jail where he was imprisoned after he was discovered directing a guerrilla training school for opponents of Gen Anastasio Somoza's government.

Sentenced to several years in prison, Hernandez was nonetheless pardoned by President Rodrigo Carazo. Hernandez then traveled to Mexico where he said he would continue struggling for the "Nicaraguan people's liberation" within the framework of the clandestine FSLN.

NATIONAL GUARD TO CONTINUE OCCUPYING SCHOOLS

PA241308Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Education Minister Prof Maria Helena de Porras has confirmed that the National Guard will continue to occupy the schools. According to the minister, the National Guard will continue to occupy the schools without interfering in their academic activities.

Regarding the protests made by the students and their leaders, she said that the military will remain in the various institutes and schools until normal conditions are reestablished. Minister Porras added that only the Mexico Institute does not give semester exams, but she did not provide any information about student attendance at the other schools. As far as we know, attendance was reduced.

KILLINGS, ARRESTS REPORTED IN VARIOUS AREAS

PA240057Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1842 GMT 23 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 23 Jul (AFP)--Two youths, suspects in a dynamite attack against the residence of a high-ranking police official, were killed by machinegun bursts fired by a police patrol in the city of Rivas 110 km south of Managua, it was reported here today. Meanwhile, the army announced the arrest of 13 men and women charged with manufacturing contact bombs to set fire to vehicles and to attack government offices in Masaya 30 km east of the capital. The slain youths were identified as Ramon Salgado and Guillermo Ruiz, reportedly members of the Nicaraguan guerrillas.

In Jinotega, 150 km north of here, the army arrested five members of the opposition, while in Managua, according to LA PRENSA, the authorities arrested Fernando Chamorro, cousin of the journalist murdered earlier this year. He is accused of participating in the recent attack against the military garrison installations.

Meanwhile, the strike called by over 3,000 hospital workers in Managua and other cities demanding higher wages continues to gain force.

Education Minister Maria Helena Porras announced that the exams in schools and institutes had concluded this weekend. The educational centers have been under military occupation.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

SUPREME COURT REJECTS PRD ELECTORAL CHALLENGE

PA211332Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0408 GMT 21 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 20 Jul (EFE)--The Supreme Court of Justice today rejected the petition filed by the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) against an electoral ruling that assigned most of the Senate seats to the official Reformist Party (PR). The corst felt that in accordance with the current electoral code, the Central Electoral Board is empowered to make decisions on any matter placed in its hands, as was the case on this occasion. It also noted that, in accordance with the law, the decisions made by this electoral body cannot be appealed. The petition against an Electoral Board decision that assigned four senators and one deputy to the ruling party due to alleged irregularities in four provinces during the elections had been filed by the PRD, winner of the recent elections.

As a result of this ruling, the PR will now have a majority in the Senate, but the PRD will control the Chamber of Deputies.

NEW POLICE CHIEF BREA GARO SWORN IN

FL220127Y Santo Domingo Radio Clarin to Listeners Abroad in Spanish 2256 GMT 21 Jul 78 FL

[Excerpt] The new chief of the national police, Brig Gen Robinson Brea Garo, promised the new government which will take office on 16 August that his command will strive to help in maintaining public order in all of its manifestations. Brea Garo stated that for the republic to constitutionally remain a reality, as it has been during the (?previous) government of Dr Joaquin Balaguer, the police need support and help. The new police chief stated that in this institution one works 24 hours a day and 365 days of the year.

ARMY GENERAL MORENO DECLINES APPOINTMENT

PA221731Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0450 GMT 22 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 22 Jul (AFP)--Marcos Jorge Moreno, a major general in the Dominican Army who was appointed armed forces coordinator on Thursday, tonight asked President Joaquin Balaguer to exempt him from assuming this new duty.

GUYANA

PARLIAMENTARY TERM EXTENDED FOR 15 MONTHS

PA221921Y Paris AFP in English 1918 GMT 22 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Georgetown, July 22 (AFP)--Guyana's 53-member parliament, elected in July 1973, today approved a bill extending its life for an extra 15 months.

The bill, introduced by Prime Minister Forbes Burnham, is to enable the drafting of a socialist constitution for the republic's 800,000 people.

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